



# California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

California Field Office • P.O. Box 1258 • Sacramento, CA 95812 • (916) 498-5161 • (916) 498-5186 FAX • [www.nass.usda.gov/ca](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ca)

WEEK ENDING: October 7, 2007  
RELEASED: October 9, 2007

FREQUENCY: Weekly  
VOL. 28 NO. 15

## WEATHER



Clear skies with scattered cumulus clouds evolved across the central valley and west Sierra slopes on Monday. Light rain in the northern Sierra, northern valley, and some places in the San Francisco Bay area developed into the afternoon. On Tuesday, warmer temperatures and light winds carried throughout the day due to a ridge that extended over the entire region. Temperatures ranged from high 70s in the San Francisco Bay and central coast, to mid 80s in the central valley and southern California. On Wednesday, there were mostly clear skies and warm weather persisted across the entire state with temperatures 2 to 3 degrees below normal in the central valley. On Thursday, a trough started to settle in the northern region of the state. Temperatures in the central valley were 5 to 10 degrees cooler than normal for this time of the year.

Showers along the Sierra and rain traces over the northern valley developed into the evening. On Friday, isolated storms and scattered rain and snow showers developed along the Sierra Nevada, northern mountains, northern valley, and the northern and central coast. Some places along the west slopes of the Sierra registered over one inch of precipitation. Southern California coasts and mountains did not experience any precipitation. A ridge developed into the eastern Pacific on Saturday, and therefore Saturday was warmer and dryer with some traces of precipitation lingering along the west slopes of the Sierra with temperatures 2 to 5 degrees below normal along the valley. On Sunday, northern California had patchy clouds, dry weather, and near normal temperatures over the mountains and the northern Sacramento valley.

## FIELD CROPS

**Rice** and **sudan** harvest continued. Rice straw baling was ongoing. The seventh cutting of **alfalfa** was complete and new alfalfa planting continued along with herbicide applications. **Safflower** harvest had begun in Fresno County. **Cotton** harvest had begun in Kern County and defoliation continued in other areas across the state. **Oats** and **winter forage** planting continued. **Corn** silage and grain harvest advanced. **Dry lima** bean harvest continued, as did **sweet potato** digging. **Sugar beets** remained in various stages of development. **Black-eye** bean fields continued to mature in Fresno County.

## FRUIT CROPS

Wine, table, and juice **grape** harvests were ongoing. In some areas, harvests were winding down. Moderate temperatures were improving grape quality. Raisin harvest was complete in Fresno County. Asian **pear** harvest was complete in Yuba County, and **kiwi** and Hachiya **persimmon** harvests were just beginning. Late variety **peaches** and **nectarines** were harvested. **Figs**, **pomegranates**, **plums**, and **pluots** were also still being harvested. Topping and pruning took place in various stone fruit orchards. Nursery stock trimming and transplanting of **strawberries** was ongoing. **Apples** were harvested in Stanislaus County. Valencia **oranges** were still being picked and packed and the harvest was slowly coming to an end. Growers and packers were looking ahead to the Navel harvest with a good crop expected. A few Navel varieties were already being picked in Tulare County. **Lemons**, **pummelos**, and Satsuma **mandarins** were also picked. **Olive** harvest remained underway and the crop continued to look heavy.

## NUT CROPS

**Almond** harvest was winding down in most of the State with good yields still being reported. **Pistachio** and **walnut** harvests were ongoing. Pistachio growers were expecting a second harvest in some areas.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

Treatments to control insects, mildew, and weeds continued for **melons**, processing **tomatoes**, and fresh market tomatoes. Ground preparations continued for spring **carrot** and **lettuce** planting. Fall **spinach** and **broccoli** crops showed normal progress. The roadside stands actively sold **melons** and **pumpkins**. Some broccoli plants were transplanted for later harvests. Harvests were active for fall **asparagus**, broccoli, pickling **cucumbers**, leaf lettuce, freezer lima **beans**, **parsley**, **peppers**, pumpkins, **radishes**, spinach, **squash**, and **sweet corn**. Tomato, **garlic**, and **onion** harvests were winding down. **Cantaloupe**, **honeydew**, and **watermelon** harvests were nearing completion. Harvest continued at a steady pace for **amaranth**, **basil**, bittersweet melons, **bok choy**, **cassava**, **cilantro**, **choy sum**, collard and mustard **greens**, **eggplant**, **kale**, and **okra**.

## LIVESTOCK

Pastures and rangelands remained very dry. Supplemental feeding of cattle with hay and grain increased. Weight gains were nonetheless good in many areas. The weather was favorable for milk production. Sheep and goats grazed on retired farmland, harvested wheat, safflower, tomato, corn and melon fields and abandoned alfalfa fields. Bees were pollinating cucumber, bean, and squash fields.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 10/07/07

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 10/07/07	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 10/07/07	January 1 - 10/07/07	Week Ending 10/07/07	July 1 - 10/07/07	July 1 - 10/07/07	July 1 - June 30
NORTH COAST	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
Eureka	50	-6	62	37	89	0	0.58	2.38	1.70	37.53
Ukiah	58	-7	84	36	1,492	1,425	0.02	0.17	1.14	37.96
Santa Rosa	60	-5	82	38	876	879	0.01	0.23	0.90	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	60	-3	78	46	532	419	0.00	0.16	0.46	19.70
San Jose	--	--	--	--	1,164	1,270	0.00	0.27	0.48	14.42
Salinas AP	59	-4	82	39	444	404	0.08	0.56	0.40	12.44
Monterey FAA	59	-2	74	44	322	137	0.04	0.33	1.15	18.72
King City	59	-6	88	36	1,218	1,001	0.00	0.15	0.33	11.44
Paso Robles AP	60	-6	89	34	1,698	1,515	0.00	0.15	0.44	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	61	-8	82	42	2,627	2,423	0.03	1.44	1.42	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	62	-7	83	44	2,600	2,517	0.01	1.24	1.21	22.29
Chico AFS	62	-6	84	35	2,374	1,990	0.02	0.95	1.01	26.32
Marysville	61	-8	83	39	2,388	2,338	0.11	0.35	0.71	21.04
Sacramento AP	62	-6	84	41	1,888	1,853	0.04	0.12	0.58	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	64	-5	85	41	2,400	2,128	0.02	0.26	0.50	13.95
Fresno	64	-6	87	44	2,992	2,687	0.00	0.06	0.38	10.60
Bakersfield	64	-8	89	46	3,142	2,971	0.00	0.26	0.31	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	60	-2	87	41	564	392	0.00	0.03	0.44	12.36
Santa Barbara	61	-4	78	42	550	695	0.01	0.24	0.76	16.25
Ventura	61	61	83	44	422	0	0.00	0.23	0.54	14.38
Los Angeles	69	-4	87	53	2,076	2,134	0.00	0.52	0.50	14.77
Riverside	69	-2	97	45	2,768	2,203	0.00	0.00	0.50	9.58
San Diego AP	68	-2	87	55	1,396	1,574	0.00	0.05	0.40	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	57	-4	84	35	2,000	1,552	0.00	0.78	0.61	5.37
Lancaster	61	-6	88	36	2,925	2,303	0.00	0.22	0.54	6.92
Daggett AP	68	-6	96	43	4,215	3,744	0.00	0.16	1.18	3.93
Thermal AP	75	-4	99	49	4,732	4,522	0.00	0.20	1.02	3.16
Blythe	77	-3	99	52	5,326	4,996	0.00	0.12	1.53	3.60
Imperial	78	-2	101	51	5,141	4,715	0.00	0.68	0.89	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	45	-7	73	20	543	296	0.12	1.18	1.44	12.01
Mt. Shasta	48	-7	73	30	749	446	0.41	1.06	2.02	37.02
Blue Canyon	48	-10	67	31	1,044	574	1.47	3.24	3.27	67.04
Yosemite	50	-11	75	17	1,352	1,090	0.00	0.71	2.01	37.05

Normal is defined as average over the 30-year period 1961 through 1990. Dashes (- -) in Average Week Ending and Departure from Normal columns mean less than five days reporting, while in High and Low columns mean no days reporting.

Weekly summary provided by the Western Regional Climate Center with data reported by the National Weather Service. When data are quality controlled by the National Climatic Data Center, the accumulated growing degree day and precipitation values are updated.